

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE 2012 SHELTER HOUSE, INC.
VOLUNTEER AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the remarkable efforts of Shelter House, Inc., and to congratulate the recipients of the 2012 Volunteer Awards. Shelter House is a community-based, non-profit organization that works to break the cycle of homelessness by offering support to those most in need in the Northern Virginia community. Shelter House provides crisis intervention, temporary housing, training, counseling, and programs to support self-sufficiency. Of course, none of this would be possible without the hard work of its dedicated volunteers.

Shelter House was founded in 1981 by several ecumenical groups, which came together to better serve low-income individuals and families. Shelter House operates three shelters: The Katherine K. Hanley and the Patrick Henry family shelters, which provide temporary housing for local families who become homeless, and Artemis House, Fairfax County's domestic violence shelter. Shelter House also has transitional housing programs, and it provides services for families that have found permanent housing. This assistance is vital to breaking the cycle of homelessness.

Volunteers and community partners are essential to the success of Shelter House, as they provide the tools necessary to combat homelessness. Their time, money, and effort compose the foundation of Shelter House's commendable work. This year, Shelter House has chosen several such individuals and partners to recognize for their outstanding commitment to ending homelessness in our community.

I join Shelter House in commending the following individuals and organizations being honored with 2012 Volunteer Awards:

Community Champion—Cooper Ginsberg Gray, PLLC;

Community Champion—Virginia Tire and Auto;

Community Partner—Reading Connection;
Community Partner—Southview Community Church;

Community Partner—Keller Williams, Fairfax Gateway Office;

Friend of Shelter House—Chantelle Tait;
Friend of Shelter House—Mike Katounis & Homeworks Painting;

Friend of Shelter House—Great Falls Womens Club;

Public Service Award—Captain Willie Bailey & Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department;

Public Service Award—Kathi Sheffel & Homeless Liaison Office Tutors of Fairfax County Public Schools;

Public Service Award—Lorraine McLean & the Fairfax County Health Department;

Building Bridges Building Hope Award—Lord of Life Lutheran Church;

Building Bridges Building Hope Award—Diane Jenkins;

Building Bridges Building Hope Award—The Quilt Patch;

Youth Volunteer Award—Men On a Mission;
Youth Volunteer Award—Russ Soper; and
Youth Volunteer Award—Alec Powell.

The aforementioned individuals and organizations certainly deserve special recognition for their dedication to Shelter House. However, one also must acknowledge the importance of all Shelter House volunteers, who constantly strive to better our community through efforts to provide secure, structured environments, as well as indispensable support, for families in need. These volunteers and partners allow Shelter House to effectively battle homelessness by empowering families to achieve self sufficiency.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our sincere appreciation to Shelter House and its many volunteers and partners. Their selfless work benefits the entire Northern Virginia community and improves the lives of many of our neighbors.

COMMENDING HOWARD BERMAN
FOR HIS HELP PASSING H. RES.
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HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend HOWARD BERMAN for his help passing H. Res. 683, an expression of regret for the House passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. Due to a clerical error, Mr. BERMAN was added as a cosponsor when he should be listed as an original cosponsor.

HOWARD was a key ally in the passage of this legislation. Because of his positive relationships with Members across the aisle, he successfully convinced key Republican lawmakers to support this effort. He was very influential in getting this bill through the House Judiciary Committee, and was with me every step of the way as we pushed to get a vote on the floor. This effort required a great deal of negotiation with the Republican leaders in the House. And who was by my side? HOWARD BERMAN! The community couldn't ask for a better or more dedicated champion to their cause.

Representative BERMAN has been a dedicated supporter since the introduction of the original resolution H. Res. 282, which he also cosponsored. Without HOWARD's support, we would not have made history when the House unanimously passed an expression of regret for the discriminatory Chinese Exclusion Act on June 18, 2012.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOMAS
GREGORY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Thomas "Tommy" Gregory, a man who devoted himself to the well-being of his family, friends, community and nation.

Born on October 1, 1949 in Lubbock, Texas, Mr. Gregory dedicated 35 years of his life to public service with the United States Department of Agriculture. He was Director and Head Statistician of the National Agricultural Statistics Service Mississippi Field Office for 18 years. He developed programs, systems and publications of great use to the agricultural community. One of his priorities was to enlist, encourage, and mentor new employees to secure the future effectiveness of the Agency.

Mr. Gregory was highly respected in the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), and was known for making special efforts with colleges in his area to encourage minority students to apply for work there. He recently received recognition for being the first white man in Mississippi to join the Black Employees of NASS Organization.

Additionally, Mr. Gregory was an active and courageous supporter of reforming our nation's broken monetary system. This year the Board of Trustees of the American Monetary Institute bestowed the Courage of Conviction Award to him, in honor and lasting memory of his active support in promoting monetary reform for the benefit of all Americans. He is survived by his wife Lanet, his three children Kelsey, Britny, and Garrett, and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Tommy Gregory, a man of unwavering faith and vision who had the courage to live by his convictions and make a difference. He will be remembered for his outstanding and enduring service for the greater good.

RECOGNIZING NATCA'S 25TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 25th anniversary of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association (NATCA).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank NATCA's 20,000 controllers, engineers and other safety-related professionals for their tireless commitment to keeping America's skies safe. In particular, I would like to express my gratitude to New York's NATCA legislative representative and members. The New York Center has over 90% of its members in NATCA, which speaks to the strength and solidarity of the organization.

Every day, the men and women who work at control towers, control centers, TRACON facilities and flight service stations make it possible for 750,000 flyers to travel. Last year, these individuals staffed a staggering 134 million flight operations. Most importantly, they operate under a commitment to their motto, "Safety Above All."

NATCA's unparalleled dedication to its members and the flying public has made the National Airspace System the best air traffic system in the world. Once again, I thank NATCA and congratulate its membership on the group's 25th anniversary.